CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A device that is adapted to remove a liner from a bucket wherein the liner is seated inside the bucket and the liner includes at an upper lip that extend over a top of the bucket, the device comprising:

a brace that is substantially in the shape of an upside down "U", with a descending left side, a descending right side, and a transverse connecting arm that connects the left and right sides of the brace;

an elongated screw that is support by and passes through the descending left and right sides of the brace, the elongated screw comprising a handle at one end and a threaded portion at an opposite end;

a right bracket that is between the descending right side of the brace and the handle, wherein the screw passes through a hole in a central portion of the right bracket; and,

a left bracket located on an exterior side of the left side of the brace, wherein a central portion of the left bracket includes a nut and the threaded portion of the screw passes through the nut;

wherein the right and left brackets are adapted to slide underneath opposite sides of the lip of the liner when the handle on the screw is turned in a clockwise direction.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the right bracket and the left bracket each have a cross-sectional shape of an "L", and lower portions of both brackets point inward.

3. The device of claim 1, wherein the brace further includes one or more attachment points, wherein each attachment point allows for attachment of a lifting force to the brace.

4. The device of claim 3, wherein the lifting force is a forklift or a crane.

5. The device of claim 1, wherein the elongated screw, the right bracket, the left bracket and the nut are each made from a metal or a metal alloy.

6. A method for removing a liner from a bucket wherein an elongated vice is used, the elongated vice comprising a brace, an elongated screw supported within the brace, and a right bracket and a left bracket that are connected together by the elongated screw, the method comprising the steps of:

placing the elongated vice over a top of the bucket and the liner;

positioning the right bracket and the left bracket on opposite sides of the bucket and so that each bracket is aligned with a gap created by the bucket and the liner;

turning a handle that is attached to a right end of the elongated screw thereby closing the vice and causing the right and left brackets to slide underneath the lip of the liner;

providing a lifting force underneath the brace; and,

lifting the vice and the liner so that the liner is lifted out of the bucket;

wherein, the left bracket includes a nut that is secured to central portion of the left bracket and a threaded end of the elongated screw passes through the nut.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the right bracket and the left bracket each have a cross-sectional shape of an "L", and the lower portion of both brackets point inward.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the brace includes one or more attachment sites, wherein each attachment site allows for attachment of the lifting force to the brace.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the lifting force is a forklift or a crane.

10. The method of claim 6, wherein the elongated screw, the right bracket, the left bracket and the nut are each made from a metal or a metal alloy.